

REMARKS

I. Introduction

The undersigned thanks Examiner Wolf for her review and consideration of the present Application. The undersigned also thanks Examiner Wolf for indicating that claims 4-13 and 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-11, 13-14, 16, 20-22, and 32-34 are pending in the application. The present amendment cancels claims 4, 23-25, 31, and 35-37 and amends claims 1 and 5. Claims 2, 15, and 26-30 remain cancelled. Claims 12 and 17-19 remain withdrawn, but are believed to be allowable as species claims that depend from an allowable generic claim. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. No new matter has been added by the present amendment.

The present response is believed to overcome all of the prior Office Action rejections, and allowance of the pending claims is kindly requested.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 20, 21, 23, 25, and 32-37

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 20, 21, 23, 25, and 32-37 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,416,553 to White et al. ("553 patent"). The undersigned respectfully traverses this rejection. Regardless, in an effort to move this application toward allowance, the present Response cancels claim 4 and incorporates the limitations of allowable claim 4 into independent claim 1. Claims 3, 20, 21, and 32-35 depend from claim 1 and therefore are believed to be allowable for the same reasons claim 1

is allowable, and may be allowable for additional reasons. Claims 23, 25, and 35-37 are cancelled and therefore rejection of these claims is moot.

III. Rejection of Claims 3, 14 and 20-25, and 32-37

The Office Action rejects claims 3, 14, 20-25, and 32-37 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,919,675 to Dietschi (“675 patent”) in view of the 553 Patent. The undersigned traverses this rejection. Regardless, in an effort to move this application toward allowance, the present amendment amends claim 1, from which claims 3, 14, 20-22, and 32-34 depend, to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 4. Thus, claims 3, 14, 20-22, and 32-34 are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons claim 1 allowable, and may be allowable for additional reasons. Claims 23-25 and 35-37 have been cancelled and therefore rejection of these claims are moot.

IV. Allowance of Claims 4-13 and 16-19

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 4-13 and 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of cancelled claim 4, and thus claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 6-13 and 16-19 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Therefore, claims 5-13 and 16-19 are believed to be allowable for the same reasons claim 1 is allowable, and may be allowable for additional reasons.

CONCLUSION

The undersigned respectfully submits that all pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Any fees due at this time may be charged to Deposit Account number 11-0855. If there are any matters that can be addressed by telephone, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at 404.532.6947.

Respectfully submitted,

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